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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/846,358	05/02/2001	Yukihiko Nansho	01309.00012	3942
22907	7590	10/19/2005	EXAMINER	
BANNER & WITCOFF 1001 G STREET N W SUITE 1100 WASHINGTON, DC 20001			THEIN, MARIA TERESA T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3627	

DATE MAILED: 10/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/846,358	Applicant(s) NANSHO, YUKIHIKO	
	Examiner Marissa Thein	Art Unit 3627	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 August 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant's "Response" filed on August 2, 2005 has been considered.

Claims 9, 11, 13, and 15 are amended. Claims 9-16 remain pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 9, 11,13, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,953,707 to Huang et al. Huang discloses a processing system, an output unit and output method comprising:

- receiving and storing information from a material supplier (supplier, component supplier) (Component Requirement Header, Component Supplier, Component Supply Contract, Component Supply Node, Appendix, pages 220-221) regarding available material based on specification requirements and date of delivery of material, the specification requirements being presented by a manufacturer (production resource group) who supplies the commodity to the demander (customer) (Aggregate production plan data, Aggregate production plan header, Appendix A, pages 215-216; Production Requirement Data, Production Recruitments Header, Appendix, page 241) purchasing the commodity;

- storing and receiving information on available processing corresponding to the specification requirements and time of delivery of the processing (Inventory Data, Inventory Header, Inventory Node, Inventory Parameters, Appendix, pages 229-231);
- inputting from the demander (customer) information on desired material (line item within the order) and desired processing for constructing elements constituting the commodity (customer orders; Appendix A, page 223), wherein the specification requirements are selected through a client computer by the demander (Figure 38, Demand Node, customer information product requirement; col. 12, lines 52-59); and
- the outputting to the client computer information the available material and the available processing corresponding to the input information on the desired material and the desired processing (customer orders; appendix A, page 223) and general date of delivery of a commodity based on the date of delivery of the material and the time of delivery (Delivery Date, Date/time) of processing (Material Delivery Schedule Data and Header, Appendix A, pages 233-234).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 10, 12, 14, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,953,707 to Huang et al. and in further view of the article "Earth-friendly good". Huang substantially discloses the claimed invention, however, Huang does not explicitly disclose the thinned-out woods. However, the Huang discloses manufacturing finished goods produced from raw materials (col. 6, lines 15-19). Huang does not disclose that his raw material is specifically is thinned-out wood. The article "Earth-friendly good" teaches the raw material is thinned-out wood so as to use for the manufacture of high-quality furniture and as an effective way of forest management. (See whole article)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the processing system, the output unit and output method of Huang, to include the thinned-out woods, as taught by the article, in order to provide an effective way of managing a forest, so as to provide high-quality furniture from raw materials, such as thinned-out woods or lumber (article).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed August 2, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's remark that "There is no indication that the customers request the products based on desired material and desired processing. Furthermore, Huang does not teach or suggest the claimed features that the demander selects the desired materials and processing or that the demander places a specific order through a computer".

The Examiner notes that Huang does teach or suggest the demander selects the desired materials and processing or that the demander places a specific order through a computer. Huang discloses a client side, which includes decision frames that present the various view points available in the system to the users (col. 2, lines 47-49). The Client Mode is the portion of the Decision Support System (DSS) architecture that is specific and therefore customizable to provide decision support for any particular decision process and decision maker (col. 5, lines 13-16). The Client Mode comprises the User Interface, the Decision Support Frames, and the client version of the Supply Chain Frame Manager (col. 5, lines 23-25). The DSS has a User Interface to interact with end users through interactive and visual data exchange (col. 5, lines 51-52). Huang further discloses the user accessing by clicking the Check Capacity button the Options menu groups with Option tabs (col. 108, lines 44-46). The Option tabs allows the user to select the desired plant location the feature of interest and pick the existing lines that may product the products with the selected features (col. 108, lines 49-55). The user may change the options before performing capacity checking (col. 108, lines 56-57). The results tap shows the results of the capacity checking; for all products selected and a production plan displayed (col. 108, lines 60-63). Moreover, Huang teaches Key Component Selections which analyze production of a product the user must work with the components that used to build the products. The Key Component Selection includes an ordered based on months button (col. 110, lines 17-19). Huang also actual purchase orders, wherein the system attempts to fulfill the requirements to satisfy the customer (col. 12, lines 61-65)

Such a client side, which includes decision frames that present the various view points available in the system to the users; the user accessing the Option tabs which allows the user to select the desired plant location the feature of interest and pick the existing lines that may product the products with the selected features; an ordered based on months button; and actual purchase orders are considered "the demander selects the desired materials and processing or that the demander places a specific order through a computer".

Applicant's remark that "Huang does not teach or suggest the invention for the reasons discussed above. The "Earth-friendly good" article does not remedy the defects of Huang".

The Examiner directs Applicant's attention to the response above.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Art Unit: 3627

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marissa Thein whose telephone number is 571-272-6764. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alex Kalinowski can be reached on 571-272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mtot
October 17, 2005



STEVE B. MCALLISTER
PRIMARY EXAMINER